

THE CHRONICLE.

Clarksville, Tenn., July 3, 1880.

N. B. NIELLETT & TITUS,
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

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A BIG ASSESSMENT.

Which may result in paying off a Large Portion of the County Debt.

Mr. John N. Nichols, county trustee, has recently completed an assessment against the property of the Louisville & Nashville railroad company lying within Montgomery county, upon which no tax has been paid for a period of twenty years. The tax due the county, according to this assessment, exceeds one hundred thousand dollars.

At the last term of the Chancery court, will was filed by the L. & N. R. Co., enjoining the assessment and collection of this tax. The chancery court modified the injunction so as to permit the assessment to be made, all other questions arising under the bill are to be determined hereafter. The county is represented by Col. A. G. Goodlett, Munford & Munford, and by W. M. Miliken, Daniel & Goodpasture, are the attorneys for the railroad. We are informed that no taxes have been heretofore assessed against this property for the reason that it was the conceived opinion that it was exempt from taxation by the terms of the charter of the original corporation, (the Memphis, Clarksville & Louisville, Railroad Co.) The Supreme court settled this question against the railroad in a similar case which went up from Sumner county and a like decision is confidently expected in favor of Montgomery county, in which event three hundred thousand dollars, which have been collected by a large part of the county's indebtedness.

Water Works.

A committee was appointed at the last meeting of the city council, with Alderman John D. Moore as chairman, to confer with Captain Daniel for the purpose of coming to some arrangement with the water-works company.

The parties held an interview, when the following proposition was made on the part of the city: That the city pay the company \$2,000 per annum for the use of the present hydrants for fire purposes and to flush gutters, etc.; the company to find themselves to keep always at least eighty feet of water in the stand-pipe; that a reasonable forfeiture be agreed upon for failure in fulfillment of contract, unless such failure be the result of unavoidable accident, and the cessation of rent so long as the failure continues.

All this was offered subject to the ratification of the city council.

Capt. Daniel declined this offer and made a counter-proposition to furnish water for fire purposes alone for \$2,400 a year, which in their turn the committee declined.

And there the matter rests. We cannot help thinking that it would have been better for the company to accept the city's offer, but every man understands his own business best.

Book-binding.

We have seen at the CHRONICLE bindery a splendid specimen of book-binding. It is an illustrated Bible in two volumes, solidly bound in the best morocco with beveled boards and extra gilt edges. We here desire to say that the same establishment has done some good work for ourselves individually; several volumes of the London Illustrated News and some valuable music have been put in first-rate order for use for us, and we have never seen better work anywhere. Much is saved by binding up loose matter, which, when loose, is very perishable. Such matter should be carried at once to the CHRONICLE bindery.

The Bibles above-mentioned will be on exhibition for a time at S. R. Stewart's drugstore. Anyone wishing to see a specimen of really artistic work, will do well to call there and see them.

The musical society of Clarksville will have a valuable acquisition in Miss M. E. McGary, the accomplished music teacher at the Academy. Miss McGary is from Louisville, Ky., and has a fine reputation as a first-class teacher of instrumental and vocal music.

We are rejoiced to learn that Mrs. Parker is again to reside in the study hall, a place so ably filled when Miss Jesse. Mrs. Blaisdell, Mrs. McCaskey and Miss Dora Plummer, are retained in the faculty. Mrs. McCaskey will have exclusive charge of the primary department.

Mr. W. T. Pace, of this county, presented at the county court, a specimen of wheat a few days ago. He procured a few grains only, and sowed them in the garden on the 23d day of March. The grains are very large and perfect, and we are of the opinion that if it had been sown late in the fall, the proper time for such wheat to be sown, it would make a better yield than the wheat usually harvested in this vicinity.

Dunbar's Cave.

We have to thank Messrs. Rice and Warfield, the proprietors, for a standing invitation to the grounds of Dunbar's cave. This popular resort has been much improved since its present possessors took it in hand, and the small sum charged for admission (only ten cents) is amply repaid by the increased accommodation and the more attractive character communicated to the place.

Our colored people will dedicate their new cemetery, Olive Hill, to-day, (Saturday). They will have a barbecue near the cemetery and speeches will be made by Rev. C. H. Thomsen and Elder D. Jones. They are endeavoring to raise funds to pay for enclosing the cemetery with a neat and substantial fence. The different societies headed by the Mozart brass band will form on the public square at 10 o'clock, a. m. and march to the cemetery grounds.

Whitfield & Co., have opened a lumber yard on Commerce street nearly opposite the foundry. They have recently set up a large saw-mill and are now prepared to fill orders for all kinds of lumber. They have a saw mill at Danville on the Tennessee river and can afford to sell as cheap as anybody.

Miss Mattill at the Press Association.

We did not attend the meeting of the state press association at Jackson last month, and consequently had not the advantage of hearing Miss Jennie Mattill deliver her lecture poem. From a perusal of it, in the columns of our neighbor, the Leaf, we find it even better than we had anticipated from her well-known talent. We select a beautiful application of an old legend from the Talmud as a specimen of this elegant composition:

"There is a legend of the Talmud old, That ages ere the earth or heavens were rolled From out the void of space, all sons of men, That yet unborn, had being, and that when Each soul was given at the Almighty will, A human frame to animate and thrill, A hint of God's great mystery should slip."

"From it out to the world, upon the lip Of the unconscious child, an angel laid A finger, and the magic touch conveyed The seed of science to the soul, which straight Forged all knowledge of the past and laid."

"Our spirit, then, and from us are conceived The mystery of Life and Being; dumb Are we and unresponsive, while the hum Of Nature's thousand voices round us swell To strange, weird, wondrous, wisdom, while Our souls but catch the melody, no angel Of deep soul-knowledge, but the music Of God made us deaf as dumb, and our sealed ears Hear not those notes wafting from higher spheres."

"Yet, now and then, into our world are sent Great, earnest souls, who for a time are true, The power to break the angel's silent seal, And some of them, who never cease to reveal, Souls who, 'mid all the turmoil and the strife, With which our busy earth is ever rife, Know the secret of the soul, and sound the faint, far-sounding, low for dulcet ear."

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